

# MISSISSIPPI DIVISION OF MEDICAID

## Eligibility Policy and Procedures Manual

### CHAPTER 101 – Application and Redetermination Processes

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#### **101.08.04    RETROACTIVE MEDICAID ELIGIBILITY**

Retroactive Medicaid eligibility may be available to any Medicaid applicant who received medical care prior to applying for Medicaid. Applicants may qualify for coverage for a 3-month period prior to the month of the application. Retroactive eligibility can cover all 3 months of the prior period or any month(s) in the 3-month period. In addition:

- Each applicant must be informed of the availability of retroactive Medicaid coverage.
- The applicant's statement is accepted regarding medical expenses incurred in the retroactive period.
- Retroactive Medicaid may also be available to an individual who is added to a case (e.g., child returns home).
- The applicant does not have to be eligible in the month of application (or current month) to be eligible for one or more months of retroactive Medicaid.

NOTE: Children have continuous eligibility. Refer to the FCC program section for instructions on how to handle children who do not have current month eligibility, but are eligible in a retroactive month.

- The applicant or recipient may ask for retroactive Medicaid coverage at any time.
- The date of application, rather than the date of the eligibility determination, establishes the beginning of the three-month retroactive period.
- There is no provision for retroactive coverage in the Qualified Medicare Beneficiary (QMB) program. QMB eligibility begins the month following the month of authorization. It is not appropriate to place a QMB-only approval into an SLMB or QI-1 category of eligibility to provide retroactive payment of Part B premiums for the retro period.

#### **101.08.04A    DECEASED APPLICANTS**

An application for retroactive Medicaid coverage may be made on behalf of a deceased person. Retroactive eligibility can cover all 3 months prior to the month of application or any month(s) in the 3-month period if the deceased person is found to be eligible.